

March 3, 2004

Honorable Craig Benson
Governor of New Hampshire
State House
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Governor Benson:

Thank you for your letter forwarding New Hampshire's recommendations on air quality designations for the national health based standards for fine particles. We received your letter on February 23, 2004.

Your letter is an important step toward providing citizens in your state with critical information about air pollution levels in their community. We intend to carefully review the recommendations and work with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services in determining final designations. The EPA must make its final official designation decisions for fine particles by December 31, 2004.

We look forward to working with New Hampshire in the coming months on designations for the fine particle standards. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or Tim Williamson, Acting Manager of the Air Quality Planning Unit, at 617-918-1099.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Varney
Regional Administrator

cc: Michael P. Nolin, Commissioner, DES
Robert Scott, Air Resources Director, DES